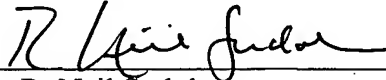




JPW

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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R. Neil Sudol

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S) : Naomi L. NAKAO
SERIAL NO. : 10/687,401
FILED : 10/16/2003
FOR : Endoscope Having Multiple Working Segments
GROUP ART UNIT : 3739
EXAMINER : Beverly Meindl Flanagan

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

S I R:

In response to the Office Action of December 6, 2004, applicant requests that the Examiner reconsider the Examiner's rejection of the pending claims in the above-identified application in view of the following remarks, observations and arguments. In addition, applicant requests that the application be amended as follows. Pursuant to current practice, all pending claims, including original claims, previously presented claims, currently amended claims, and withdrawn claims, are presented below. Canceled claims are indicated as being canceled. Underlining indicates additions made herein, while deletions made herein are indicated by strikethrough or double brackets.